

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the claims, please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (currently amended) A process for delivering a naked polynucleotide into a cell of a mammal to inhibit protein expression, comprising:
 - a) making the naked polynucleotide consisting of a sequence that is substantially complementary to a nucleic acid sequence in the mammal;
 - b) inserting the naked polynucleotide, ~~which is not complexed with another molecule,~~ into a vessel in the mammal, wherein the vessel consists of arteries, arterioles, capillaries, venules, sinusoids, veins, lymphatics, and bile ducts;
 - c) increasing the permeability of the vessel within the target tissue; and,
 - d) delivering the naked polynucleotide to the cell wherein the protein expression is inhibited.
2. (canceled)
3. (previously amended) The process of claim 1 wherein increasing the permeability of the vessel consists of increasing pressure against vessel walls.
4. (original) The process of claim 3 wherein increasing the pressure consists of increasing a volume of fluid within the vessel.
5. (original) The process of claim 4 wherein increasing the volume consists of inserting the polynucleotide in solution into the vessel.
6. (original) The process of claim 1 wherein the vessel consists of a tail vein.
7. (original) The process of claim 1 wherein the vessel consists of a bile duct.
8. (previously amended) The process of claim 1 wherein the cell is a cell selected from the group consisting of liver cells, spleen cells, heart cells, kidney cells, striated muscle cells, and lung cells.
9. (original) The process of claim 1 wherein the polynucleotide consists of RNA.
10. (canceled)
11. (canceled)
12. (canceled)

13. (original) The process of claim 4 wherein increasing the pressure consists of increasing a volume within the vessel.
14. (original) The process of claim 13 wherein the pressure is sufficient to increase organ volume.
15. (original) The process of claim 13 wherein the pressure is sufficient to increase extravascular volume.
16. (original) The process of claim 1 wherein the vessel consists of a liver vessel.